

Proprietary & Confidential**DRAFT****Claims**

1. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method of
2 facilitating a value exchange between multiple users in a distributed value exchange
system, the method comprising:
- 4 (a) registering a first user with the value exchange system, wherein the first
user is assigned a first account with the value exchange system;
- 6 (b) receiving at the value exchange system a value exchange transaction from
the first user, wherein said transaction involves a second user and includes:
- 8 (i) a pre-existing identifier of the second user, wherein the pre-
existing identifier enables communication with the second user independent of the
10 value exchange system; and
- (ii) a value to be exchanged between the first user and the second user;
12 wherein the first user sends the value exchange transaction to the value
exchange system without informing the second user of the value exchange
14 transaction; and
- (c) at the value exchange system:
- 16 (i) computer-generating a notification of said value exchange
transaction;
- 18 (ii) electronically sending said notification to the second user; and
- (iii) prior to said electronically sending, allocating said value between
20 said first account and a second account associated with the second user.

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43. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of
2 transferring value, comprising:
receiving a connection from a registered user of a value transfer system, wherein
4 the registered user has a first account with the value transfer system and the first account
is identified by a first electronic mail address of the registered user;
6 receiving from the registered user a request to execute a transfer of value to an
unregistered party, wherein the unregistered party is identified only by an a second
8 electronic mail address, the request comprising:
said second electronic mail address of the unregistered party; and
10 a first value to be transferred to the unregistered party;
registering the unregistered party, wherein said registering comprises creating for
12 the unregistered party a second account with the value transfer system, the second
account identified by said second electronic mail address;
14 at the value transfer system, transferring said first value from the registered user
to the unregistered party, wherein said transferring comprises debiting the first account
16 by said first value and crediting the second account by said first value;
only after said first value is transferred, sending notification of said transfer from
18 said value transfer system to the unregistered party via electronic mail; and
~~registering the unregistered party, wherein said registering comprises creating an~~
20 ~~account for the unregistered party;~~
wherein the unregistered party is not informed of said transfer by the registered
22 user.